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28 July 1981

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

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AFGHANISTAN

STATE OF SIEGE, TURMOIL DESCRIBED AS PERVASIVE

Munich SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German No 145, 29 Jun 81 p 3

[Report by Olaf Ihlau: "Every Night A Festival of Lights"]

[Text] Jalalabad, June--"Any weapons?" asks the security guard in Kabul while checking passengers on the domestic flight to Jalalabad and registers surprise at my negative answer. A European, probably one of those "advisers" from the East bloc, who in these troubled times wants to travel in Afghanistan without an equalizer in his pocket? Only when he sees my West German passport is there a glimmer of understanding on the policeman's face. On the wooden table in front of him there is a whole arsenal of weapons, pistols of all calibers and Kalashnikovs, the most important items in the carry-on baggage of most male passengers. The weapons' serial numbers and the names of their owners are carefully recorded on a long list. The mustachioed party functionary behind me is carrying his little daughter in his left arm and a machine pistol in his right. He is allowed to keep the magazine which he has removed from it; it makes a fascinating toy for the little one. Two sacks full of weapons are loaded into the baggage compartment of the Antonov-24 before the Russian pilot starts the engines of the twin-engined aircraft belonging to the domestic Afghan Bakhtar airline for the 20-minute hop to Jalalabad. The passenger list consists mostly of government employees and party people with their dependents whom an automobile trip would place in danger of their lives because of constant attacks by Moslem rebels.

Actually we had wanted to go to Mazar-i-Sharif near the Soviet border and had even obtained a visitor's permit for the purpose. But during the last few days there had been firefights in the capital of Balch province which contains the shrine of Ali, caliph and Shi'ite patron saint. The word came therefore suddenly from the Ministry of Information that unfortunately there was no flight connection available to Mazar; but that an excursion to Jalalabad would be very beautiful and interesting too. But why no detour to Herat or Kandahar? The irritated reply: "Those cities cannot be visited by foreigners at this time."

Jalalabad is apparently presentable then. With its 60,000 inhabitants, the capital of Nangarhar province and trade center of Eastern Afghanistan, it is the preferred winter residence of the rulers in the Hindu Kush because of its mild climate. Said to have been founded 400 years ago by Great Mogul Akhbar, Jalalabad

calls itself "resplendent"—for reasons not apparent to the visitor. Endless rows of dilapidated houses, a colorless bazaar, a burnt-out winter palace and the reformer-king Amanullah's mausoleum are all the points of interest which this sad place on the old trade route to the Khyber Pass has to offer. Prior to the outbreak of the civil war, culture-minded tourists were only lured to this boring oasis, ringed by high mountain ranges, by one genuine attraction: the Hadda monastery complex, 10 kilometers outside the town, which was one of the Buddhist world's holiest pilgrimage objectives from the second to the seventh centuries.

"Just make certain that you do not travel there with a government escort; go there by taxi—it is safer. Just day before yesterday there was shooting again in the area," an engineer warned me at Jalalabad airport, while we watched about 60 Soviet infantry tanks and personnel carriers proceeding in the direction of the Kunar valley. Six or seven young, tow-headed soldiers sit on top of each tank and are fanning themselves with their scout hats in the humid summer's heat. "During the day Brezhnev rules Jalalabad, but at night Reagan does," says the engineer darkly. Government control, he continues, ends about 5-10 kilometers outside the city—that is how close the fighters for Allah, the Mujaheddin, have come in. The airport is the headquarters of the Soviet occupation forces for air strikes in the heavily embattled provinces of Paktia, Nangarhar and Kunar. During several rebel night attacks it was hit by mortar fire, without however much damage being done. The Russian war machinery is operating at full speed. While we leave the airplane and the Afghan functionaries reclaim their weapons, we see hectic takeoffs and landings by swarms of "armored flying dogs," the rebels' name for Moscow's most effective weapon, the MI-24 combat helicopter. There must be more than 70 of these helicopters stationed in Jalalabad.

The engineer slinks away when he sees my "shadow" return from making a phone call: Ahmad of Kabul's Ministry of Information. It does not suit Ahmad that I have time to look around the airport when the reserved car has not shown up. It is his job to demonstrate to me that life in Jalalabad is proceeding in a completely normal and undisturbed fashion. Not a pleasant task, for sure. Ahmad accomplishes it with clumsy officiousness, forever following me around like a terrier for my "protection." Nothing comes therefore of the taxi excursion to Hadda. Instead, we careen off in a government jeep, with four escorts and a soldier who is armed to the teeth. For simplicity's sake, the jeep still has its cyrillic license plates (in Kabul they still take the trouble to exchange them for Afghan plates). The jeep, as if pursued by furies, is tearing over a sandy path which winds through citrus and olive groves. At this insane speed, the driver would never have a chance to react if he should spot a landmine placed by rebels.

However, nothing untoward happens. A platoon of Afghan soldiers has taken up a fortified position near Hadda. This despite the fact that there is nothing to guard or defend here, because Hadda, as glowingly described in tourist brochures, no longer exists. The great "Tepe-i-Shotor" shrine, the smaller votive shrines and the marvellous stucco sculptures have been destroyed: blasted, burned, shot to pieces. Ismad, of the city committee, propagandizes: "This is on the conscience of the counterrevolutionary bandits and the butcher Amin, who did not provide enough protection for these shrines." This is of course only a half-truth. These acts of senseless destruction are attributable to the even insurgent Chaplikar tribe of orthodox Moslems. But this particular act of vandalism did not take

place during the regime of Amin, the dictator overthrown by the Soviets, but last year when Babrak Karmal was already in power. "There you can see what would happen if those fanatics were to come to power," said Minister of Tourism Mazdooryzar with righteous indignation during a subsequent interview in Kabul.

Hadda's fate however has less of an impact upon the governor of Jalalabad. Abdul Qadeer Hotak has other worries. As the highest ranking government official of the province he is the prime candidate for assassination by the rebels—you might call him a corpse on call. The former treasury official has already endured 2 months in this suicide squad situation. Four soldiers stand guard outside his reception room. A black pistol is lying on the side board of his fortress-like desk. Shifty eyes in a hamster face with thick lips regard the visitor suspiciously. The nervously chain-smoking governor announces; "We are on the road to converting the revolution's promises to reality and to providing a glorious and happy life for our people."

Another ride through town, again with a big escort and at high speed. Small wonder that this attracts hostile glances in the bazaar; only the children smile. Even fewer vegetables are for sale on the stands than in Kabul. On almost every street corner there are two-man police or army patrols. Lunch at the heavily guarded Spinghar restaurant, named after the White Mountain chain southwest of Jalalabad which still has snow-covered peaks in June. At the next table, two young Soviets in Western garb with a female colleague, probably "advisers." They are emptying a bottle of vodka with Fanta added. One of them wears a bright red Adidas T-shirt, the other is sporting a cowboy look. Both have pistol holsters dangling from their belts. When I ask my chaperones who these customers might be, I am told in an irritated tone of voice: "They are tourists." With pistols? Ismad of the local committee reassures me: "Oh, that is only for their safety. If you like, you may have one too."

The former winter residence of the Afghan king sits abandoned in a beautiful tropical park. A few weeks ago, Babrak Karmal distributed medals to officers there and gave a speech to selected tribal elders. For security reasons, the chief of state then flew back to his Kabul fortress before nightfall.

An argument with my "shadow." Ahmad is trying to keep me from visiting the Consul General of India, then insists on accompanying me; I refuse. Fuming, Ahmad remains outside. The Indian diplomat, a faithful follower of Gandhi, dreams of h's return to Delhi and his spinning wheel. A few months ago a handgrenade was tossed into his courtyard and exploded. Thereupon the counsul sent his family to Kabul. "This is no life any more," he says in a depressed tone; "every night we have Diwali." That is the name of the Indian festival of lights, which is celebrated with fireworks, like New Year's Eve in Europe. In Jalalabad of course the flares which rise into the night sky have a different function. The governor claims that they are used by the security forces for signaling.

Call to Prayer in Empty Streets

Two hours later: my "shadow" has disappeared. Infantry tanks with Afghan soldiers patrol the streets. One stops. The soldiers ask me to take their picture, strike

a martial pose. In passable English, an officer engages me in a brief conversation on a delicate subject. The Mujaheddin are much better trained than his draftees, he tells me. "They climb around the mountains like goats; my people move like lame ducks."

A mullah's penetrating call to prayer is heard at dusk. "Allahu Akbar"--God is great. Though curfew does not officially start until 2300 hours, the streets are empty after 2000 hours except for party militiamen and infantry tanks. Toward morning, for about 20 minutes, there is Diwali: signal flares, short machinegun bursts and dull explosions in the far distance, apparently tank gun fire. Then all is quiet again.

When the governor told me that life in his province was undisturbed and without problems, I asked for permission to ride to Kabul on the bus the next day. Admittedly, a crafty request, since the road to the capital these days is traveled only in convoys with tank protection when enough trucks and buses have been lined up. The governor replied that maybe in one out of every hundred cases something might happen, but this risk should be avoided. He suggested a return flight aboard a military aircraft instead.

The benches on the Antonov-24 with Afghan markings are jampacked with officers, party functionaries and their dependents. A few of the women are wearing colorful chadris, the traditional full-body veil. A Soviet noncom makes a complaint, gets chewed out by an Afghan security guard. Before takeoff, room must be found for five wounded Afghan soldiers. Blood is oozing through the gauze bandage on the arm of one of them. A pilot in a grayish blue uniform appears. The Russian noncom bolts the door to the cockpit behind him and takes his position in front of it. Three combat helicopters are clattering past on one side; finally we can get started. Twenty-four hours in Afghanistan's most "normal" provincial city are over. Who knows what things are like in Mazar, in Herat, or in Kandahar?

9273

CSO: 4620/2

PAPER NOTES 'RELAXED' SECURITY IN AFGHANISTAN

PM171414 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 17 Jul 81 p 5

[Report by Peter Gill: "Russians' Bridge Across Afghan River Frontier"]

[Text] Soviet bridgebuilders are halfway to completing the first major road crossing of the fast-flowing river Oxus which forms their southern frontier with Afghanistan.

Their 700-yard box girder bridge, which Afghan officials say will be finished within 18 months, will replace the pontoon bridge the Russians threw across the Oxus, near the village of Hairatan, when their troops entered Afghanistan in December 1979.

Although agreement to build the bridge was reached between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan before the 1978 revolutionary coup in Afghanistan, Afghan officials say that work on the bridge has been speeded up in recent months.

When we drove to the frontier to film for last night's "TV Eye," work on the bridge had been suspended for a baking hot weekend in the middle of Ramadan, the Moslem holy month of fast, which is observed fairly strictly in Afghanistan.

But civilian goods lorries and Russian military transporters were still crossing the pontoon bridge, half a mile upstream of the new bridge, on their way north from Afghanistan.

And scores of sweating porters were being urged at the double to unload Russian seed corn from a Soviet barge moored on the Afghan side of the river. Another barge had its decks loaded down with beer, also destined for the Afghan market.

Senior members of the provincial committee of Afghanistan's ruling party are still amazed at the swiftness of the Soviet military intervention 18 months ago.

"It was very quick, and impressive," said one local official. "That great floating bridge was put up in the course of just one night."

Our 40-mile drive from Mazari-Sharif, the principal town in northern Afghanistan to the Soviet frontier on the Oxus provided evidence that the Mojahideen guerrillas are giving the Russians fewer headaches than is fondly believed in the West.

We passed a convoy of upwards of 50 Soviet army lorries, all driven by Russians in uniform, without any armored or troops escort at all.

Russian engineers have made a fuel pipeline south from the frontier, and special military petrol stations have been established for convoy traffic. Both the stations and the pipeline have been given only minimal protection.

Portable beacons for Russian helicopters have also been set up--another potential target for any guerrillas operating in the area. But they too, stand untouched on their sand dunes.

Local party officials say that some isolated villages in Balkh Province--whose capital is Mazar-I-Sharif--have been attacked by guerrillas, but dismiss the problems as minor.

The natural gas pipeline from Afghanistan's principal gas field at Shibarghan to the big Soviet-aided chemical fertilizer plant near Mazari-I-Sharif was blown up several times last year, but there has been no disruption of supplies since then.

"I think as soon as they realise that we could restore supplies so quickly they gave up trying," said one of the plant managers.

Officials acknowledge that cultural and historical affinities between the Uzbeks and Tadzhiks of northern Afghanistan and their cousins in Soviet Central Asia have contributed to more relaxed security than is encountered amid the Pathan areas along the southern border with Pakistan.

But even during our flight over the Hindu Kush we were able to note that traffic was moving quite freely on the main Russian artery leading from the border through the Salang Tunnel at 11,000ft to Kabul.

There is, however, no dispute that this and other roads are interdicted on occasion by what are called "bandits" or "gangs of thieves."

All my efforts to persuade the Afghans to let us go by road in any direction from Kabul met with failure.

I was told we could well be mistaken for Russians, and that our Afghan hosts did not want to have to explain our injury or death--or still worse, perhaps, our capture--at the hands of antigovernment guerrillas.

CSO: 4600/73

USSR, POLAND STATE POLICY ON AFGHAN PEACE

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 7 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] The Soviet Union and Poland have again confirmed their basic position of supporting a political solution for the problems of the Afghan war according to the proposals dated 14 May 1980 of the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The solution of the international aspects of the problem of Afghanistan can take place only by putting an end to the aggressive activities against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan from abroad and getting secure guarantees of non-recurrence of these activities.

This subject was mentioned in the joint communique which was published at the end of the friendly visit to Poland of Andrey Gromyko, USSR minister of foreign affairs.

In this communique, it was stated that the defense of the socialist gains in the People's Republic of Poland is inseparable from the matters of the independence of the Polish state, its security, and the inviolability of its borders.

These problems not only apply to Poland but rather are of vital importance to all socialist societies.

In the communique it has been stated that the USSR and the People's Republic of Poland expressed their decisions to strengthen the unity and solidarity of their fraternal countries.

The Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Poland will increase even more the effective cooperation between the member nations of the Warsaw Pact and COMECON and will make a suitable response to any imperialist effort to destroy their ideology or any harmful activities against the socialist countries.

The USSR and the People's Republic of Poland will also continue to expand the bilateral relations in keeping with the friendly commitments, cooperation, and mutual aid between the USSR and the People's Republic of Poland.

Once again, both parties stressed their indestructible unity, fraternal friendship, cooperation between the two countries as well as the all-around development of relations between the CPSU and the United Workers' Party of Poland which are guarantees of the vital interests of the people of the USSR, Poland, their security, and their socialist structure.

CSO: 4665/4

AFGHANISTAN

UK NEWSMAN'S VIEW OF RUSSIAN AFGHAN PRESENCE

PM161254 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 16 Jul 81 p 5

[Report by Peter Gill: "Afghan Airfield Now a Key Russian Base"]

[Text] Soviet military personnel have turned Jalalabad airfield, 55 miles from the Pakistan frontier in eastern Afghanistan, into a key forward air base against pro-Western rebels.

Perspiring Russian sentries are in charge of their Afghan comrades at the main gate and all the principal notices on the base are in Russian. This once-lazy provincial airfield is now ringed by a new perimeter fence and an array of radar detector devices.

In the fields beyond, there are heavy weapons mounted on armoured vehicles intended to further discourage guerrilla attacks.

I estimate that there are some 100 Soviet helicopters at the base, with the main assault role given to the MI-24 helicopter gunships whose attacks are greatly feared by anti-Communist insurgents.

But there are no jets, an indication that the Russians are committed to an active support role for Afghan Government troops in their struggle against "counter-revolutionaries" rather than posing a direct threat to the Pakistanis.

In response to the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, Pakistan is to receive from the United States sophisticated F-16 fighter aircraft.

During several tours around Jalalabad, and in the course of a 55-mile road journey to the Pakistan frontier at Torkum, I saw no evidence that Russian ground forces were operating any further forward than the air base.

Afghan Government and people's party spokesmen in Jalalabad and Kabul insist that it is only their own troops who do the fighting against the insurgents and then explain away the Russian role as intended to "repel foreign aggression."

Whatever the precise Russian role, there is remarkable unanimity among local party men that the security position in the Jalalabad region has improved significantly in the past six months.

They claim a notable success in an operation last month with major Mojahedin base and weapons dump at Trabara, 35 miles south-west of Jalalabad near the Pakiata frontier. But our request to film there could not be met because, we were told, there were no helicopters available.

On the road to the border at Yarkum, only the size of our protective convoy--two lorries full of troops and two jeeps--jarred with scenes of rural tranquility. There were no burnt-out vehicles by the road and almost all the bridges were unguarded and undamaged.

There is destruction in some of the villages which the government is anxious should be recorded. In Belanghar, five miles from Jalalabad, the head man showed us the charred remains of the village school.

Many such schools have been targetted by the Mojahedin. The government says it is because the rebels are opposed to anything approaching scientific education.

But a principal reason for many of the earlier attacks on schools was that many teachers were supporters or members of the ruling people's democratic party of Afghanistan.

Some of the benefits of the April, 1978, revolution are equally apparent in villages under firm government control.

In Nangarhar Province, of which Jalalabad is the capital, 15,000 acres of land are said to have been distributed to 5,000 landless families, and one peasant beneficiary in Belanghar impressed us by shaking his fist in front of our imperialist camera to demonstrate his commitment to the revolution.

Our only direct contact with what Moscow and Kabul call the Soviet Union's "limited contingents" in Afghanistan was less than friendly. As we stepped from an Afghan air force Antonov-26 transporter at Jalalabad, our cameraman, Tom Ingle, had his camera at the ready.

Within seconds, a Russian officer was striding towards us with an Afghan security officer in tow. Our official status in the country did nothing to help, the film in the camera was taken and as far as we know is still being studied by the Russians in Kabul.

When we came to leave Jalalabad after 48 hours in the area, our domestic airline flight was cancelled and, to the consternation of local officials, we were obliged once again to take a military flight. This time Soviet security officers made certain there would be no slips.

We were whisked through the gate to the waiting aircraft, and a Russian security officer gave exact instructions as to what was to happen next. All our cameras were removed from us for the flight and returned only on arrival at Kabul.

The town of Jalalabad seems to be off-limits to Soviet soldiers who keep to the air base and a nearby residential compound. We encountered only one group of Russians in the bazaar, and they were in civilian clothes, but armed.

There have been reports of surprise attacks on Russians in Afghan towns, and we were shadowed throughout our trips through Jalalabad by Afghan Government bodyguards.

Not one of the Indian traders--the shopkeepers of Jalalabad--addressed us in anything but Russian.

Some of the quieter observations made about us as we walked the streets of the town were evidently uncomplimentary. It is a disconcerting experience for an Englishman to be taken as Red!

The "TV eye" film "Behind the Afghan Curtain" is to be shown tonight at 8:30.

CSO: 4600/73

UK JOURNALIST ON AFGHAN DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS

PM151450 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 15 Jul 81 p 5

[Report by Peter Gill: "Afghan Politburo Curbing Changes to Gain Support"]

[Text] The West's concern at the Russian army's presence in Afghanistan and continued restrictions on press access are obscuring the possible importance of domestic political developments intended to make the country's revolutionary regime more palatable to Afghan tribesmen.

Politburo members of the ruling party admit that they are consciously slowing down the imposition of revolutionary changes in an effort "to bring the people along with us."

"Afghanistan will not see socialism in my lifetime," said Dr Anahita Ratebzad, a senior member of the Politburo with responsibility for four ministries. "That will be for the younger generation of Afghans."

Marxist ideologies in the party say that the revolution is currently in its "national democratic" phase and point to the recent establishment of a national fatherland front as an attempt to involve forces other than the party in the country's affairs.

As a parliament, the front is patently a non-elective sham.

Its meetings to date have consisted entirely of speeches enthusiastically endorsing the government of Babrak Karmal which took power in December 1979 when Russian army units entered the country.

Nor, apparently, is there any question of the front being open to Islamic and their opponents of the government who are waging a guerrilla war in the hills with encouragement from the West.

But even the involvement of pliant groups of students, journalists, Moslem clergymen and others may reflect a desire on the part of both Kabul and Moscow to broaden the critically narrow power base that the party has had until now.

I attended one specially-convened youth meeting in Kabul to express support for the national fatherland front. The reception given to the main address from a visiting member of the Politburo was polite, but far from ecstatic.

A further sign of relaxation on the government's part was their decision to allow a "T.V. Eye" team to film in the political wing of the country's top security prison at Pul-E-Charke, five miles east of Kabul. The film will be shown on ITV tomorrow night.

Defence of the prison perimeter against possible guerrilla attack has been handed over to the Afghan army. Old Soviet supplied tanks are dug in outside the prison walls.

Of the 1,000 prisoners at Pul-E-Charke, almost 600 are acknowledged to be there for political reasons. Two-hundred of them have yet to be tried and are officially said to be "under investigation."

All we spoke to, including those who said they were being unjustly held, said that the conditions were good.

Food is provided free by the prison authorities for political prisoners while criminals have to rely on their families bringing in supplies.

Many of the older detainees in the political wing, convicted on a range of subversion charges, claimed now to have been "deceived" by the Islamic fundamentalists who are fighting to overthrow the Karmal Government.

But two English-speaking students were more outspoken.

One, serving an eight-year sentence for possessing a gun in a country where weapons are commonly carried, said that he had never been an opposition supporter.

Another Kabul University student, Mohammad Zaher, 22, was one of 1,500 students arrested after anti-Soviet riots in Kabul 15 months ago. He is one of 10 still held.

Zaher denied to me that he had been a leader of the students strike. Besides, he added, the strikes were directed against the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan and not against the Karmal Government.

There followed a heated exchange between the student and our people's party escort who declared flatly. "If you are anti-Soviet in this country at this time then you must also be anti-government."

Zaher said that after 15 months in Pul-E-Charke he accepted the government's position and to the delight of party officials added that he now wanted the opportunity to leave Jalalabad and fight against the government's enemies.

Prison officers said that about 10 rebels convicted on serious terrorist charges had been executed since Karmal took power 18 months ago.

This compared with the hundreds eliminated during the turbulent months in power of Hafizullah Amin, predecessor of Babrak Karmal.

Senior Politburo members repeated to me earlier government assurances that Afghan refugees in Pakistan were free to return and that there would be no action taken against them.

"All we insist is that they should lay down their weapons," said Dr Radezad.

CSO: 4600/73

SOVIETS ROTATING TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN

BK151008 Hong Kong AFP in English 0953 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] New Delhi, 15 Jul (AFP)--The Soviet military command in Afghanistan has begun summer rotation of its troops amidst reports of increasing rebel activities in the Afghan capital and its suburbs, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

Numerous rebel attacks and slaying of prominent pro-government persons in Kabul including a former general during the last week have forced the authorities to conduct area-wide house-to-house searches in the city, the informants here said.

Kabul international airport witnessed somewhat heavier air activities during the week with helicopters and MiG 21 jets flying frequently and low, the sources said.

The sources, however, could not confirm a Western radio report that the Soviets have inducted 5,000 more troops into Afghanistan.

The movements were related to internal military transportation and summer troops rotation, the sources said.

The sources, quoting eyewitnesses said that armoured personnel carriers were seen being loaded in the giant AN-22 transport aircrafts in Kabul airport to reinforce units fighting the rebels in the provinces.

About 200 government troops aided by an unspecified number of Khad personnel surrounded areas in the southwestern part of Kabul beginning July 5 and seized all males over 12 years old, the sources said.

During the operation at least five government soldiers and political officers and several rebels were killed.

The sources here reported the slaying of an unidentified Russian near the Inter-continental Hotel on July 10.

The same day rebels ambushed a vehicle carrying Khad agents near the Kargha Dan in the outskirts of the city. Two Khad personnel were killed and three were taken prisoners by the rebels.

CSO: 4600/73

AFGHANISTAN

CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH EAST GERMANY

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 8 Jul 81 p 8

[Text] Kabul--An Agreement for cultural cooperation was signed yesterday morning at the Ministry of Higher Education and Vocations of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan between that ministry and the Foreign Enterprise Department of the German Democratic Republic.

The documents for this agreement were signed and exchanged by the deputy minister of Higher Education and Vocations for Afghanistan, and, for East Germany, by the commercial consul of that country in Kabul.

As a result of this agreement, a number of professors in various fields will be exchanged between the two countries and necessary cooperation will be carried out with the University of Kabul.

CSO: 4665/3

BRIEFS

INCREASED REBEL ACTIVITY REPORTED--Reports reaching Delhi from Afghanistan say rebels have increased their operations in the city of Mazar-e Sharif, on the border with the Soviet Union. The reports, quoting usually reliable sources in Kabul, say there was heavy fighting in the city every day last week and that there were many casualties. The rebels are also reported to have attacked a convoy of 50 oil tankers, destroying nearly 20 of them. Later, nearby villages were bombarded in what the sources described as reprisal attacks. A number of villagers are said to have been killed. The reports also say that Afghan security forces have detected a big timebomb in the controlroom of the television center in Kabul. [Text] [TA131612 London BBC World Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Jul 81]

CSO: 4600/73

EGYPT

BRIEFS

ASSISTANT DEFENSE MINISTER APPOINTED--A republican decree was issued yesterday appointing Staff Maj Gen Ahmad Shawqi al-Matini assistant to the minister of defense. Prior to this appointment he was chief of the Armed Forces Inspection Organization. He has held a number of military positions including commander of the Second Field Army Artillery at the end of the October War, succeeded Lt Gen Abu Ghazzalah. [After that] he was director of the Weapons and Ammunition Department. He has attended four training courses: two in the United States (1955), one at the Staff College in the Soviet Union (1961) and one at the Nasir Academy (1972). He graduated from the War College in 1949. [Text] [Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 3 Jul 81 p 1]

CSO: 4504/32

IRAN

BANI-SADR'S CASE ANALYZED AS ALLEGED CIA AGENT

Tehran ETTEIA'AT in Persian 5 Jul 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] After the victory of the revolution, the United States, in essence, set its hopes on two avenues to bring back the golden era of its domination, as it has done and still does in every revolution: re-domination through moderation and conciliation or through hooliganism, anger, and violence. Should one of these two avenues reach a dead end, it pursues the other.

On the first avenue, the United States seeks out, step by step, newer ways of domination. From the outset of the Islamic revolution of Iran, each time it found a new avenue and set its hopes on that means; and as soon as the new weapon no longer worked, it picked up a newer weapon still and began to sharpen it.

The Amir-Entezams, the Nazihs, the Madanis, the Maragheh'is, the followers of Khalq-e Mosalman, Matindaftari, AYANDEHGAN, CHELANGAR, PEYGHAN-E ENRUZ, TEHRAN-MOSSAVAR, the pseudo-clerics, the Ezzodins, the Qasemius, the Fada'is, the Mojahedins, and the armed groups were all links in the chain of hope for the investments of U.S. imperialism. And they were all exposed, one after the other, in their own particular ways.

These were all weapons which lost their color and rusted, one after the other. And the heroic occupation of the spy nest resulted in even more exposures, and, as everyone remembers, it created a strong atmosphere of enmity and hatred towards the United States and love and fondness for the imam and the line of the imam. Under such circumstances, it is clear how the United States feels.

Such was the situation until the presidential elections, when Madani, Bani-Sadr, and others showed their faces. At that time, a simple public opinion poll would have proved that two figures were ahead of everyone else in the election race: Madani and Bani-Sadr. And the reasons for their influence was obvious. The explanation needs no repeating. Of these two candidates, Bani-Sadr had certain characteristics and advantages: He had lived in the West for many

years; he was a writer and a man of ideas; he was a speaker and a man of discussions; he had shown himself from the first day as an anti-communist and anti-leftist; he had often appeared at the side of the imam as an interpreter, obedient and trusted; he was a member of the Revolutionary Council and had at various times held the important positions of minister of economic affairs and finance and minister of foreign affairs; he was religious, nationalistic, a propagandist, a spectacle-maker; and above all, he was very self-centered, a self-worshipper. He thought of himself as the "greatest thinker of contemporary times" and the creator of the "greatest work of the century." As Islamic tradition says, to prove one's ignorance and stupidity, it suffices to regard oneself as higher than all others.

The most ignorant and so-called most stupid of people is the person who would consider himself highest and wisest. This may be very unpleasant, but it is the truth.

Hence, for the United States, the peculiarities and characteristics mentioned above were considered extremely advantageous. And most advantageous was Bani-Sadr's sense of self-aggrandisement--similar to the late Don Quixote's feelings of championship and single-handed heroism. And this characteristic is and became the best avenue for U.S. domination. Therefore, it is clear why the United States, upon finding Bani-Sadr, temporarily abandoned everyone else and set its hopes on him.

He was neither a Fada'i guerrilla to be called a communist and murderer of the pasdaran in Kurdistan and Torkaman Sahra, nor was he a Mojahed to be called a double-crosser [monafeq] and the plotter of a gradual armed movement to usurp power. On the contrary, Bani-Sadr had debated and attacked the Fada'is on television and had called the People's Mojahedin the Stalins of Iran. His statements against the Mojahedin organization were even published in the same pamphlet along with those of the imam and 'Ali Tehrani.

Also, Bani-Sadr belonged neither to the Khalq-e Mosalman, who quickly and unskillfully declared their resistance to the sole leadership of the revolution in order to cause disintegration--and who thereafter crept into some corner when they were exposed; nor was he a part of the transitional government, to share in the accusation of having failed the test and fallen with the occupation of the spy nest; nor was he a simple military element, like Nadani, to be a direct reminder of Reza Khan and to be uninformed about the complicated system of Western propaganda and the mechanism of finding and making a place for himself in public opinion; nor was he a person of whom it could be said, "We do not know what the imam thinks of him" or "We have never seen him with the imam." Most importantly . . . yes . . . the well-known story of his being the "greatest thinker of the century" and having the mentality of the late Don

Quixote. This was the greatest advantage of the century for the United States to take a free ride.

In addition, Bani-Sadr had started, from the earliest issues of ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, to defend the revolution and the spiritual leadership. Every one of his editorials was detailed proof of his defense of the revolution and the clergy who followed the line of the imam, especially those very clerics who had been appointed by the imam to positions of authority.

Given this situation, the United States would have been mad to search out Bakhtiar, or the half-Pahlavi, or other known and pale faces. And that is why today, in the documents of the spy nest, which, according to the imam's instructions--and due to social interests, war conditions, etc.--have been published after some delay, we read that the United States and the CIA were trying to buy Bani-Sadr. We have not forgotten the statement of the imam when we listen to one of those disuniting, belligerent speeches.

The imam, addressing the government officials and national authorities, said: We ourselves are agents of the United States. And he then explained that the functionaries are not always on the payroll.

There are those who are unpaid functionaries who do exactly what the United States wants; they implement exactly the plans that the United States has devised. The documents of the spy nest show clearly that the policies of the CIA and the United States were precisely the same as the step-by-step policies of Bani-Sadr.

Here we ask the skeptics: If the United States and the CIA had placed in the seat of power and the presidency one of their official, well-known, marked agents instead of Bani-Sadr and had officially announced it, and had emphatically instructed him to the best of his ability to weaken, attack, and, through various accusations, to stain the reputations of the entire government; the Majles; the army of the pasdaran; the Construction Crusade; the committees; the judicial, legislative, and executive powers; the Council of Guardians; the progressive clergy who were trusted by the imam; the students who occupied the spy nest; the social services foundations; in short, all the revolutionary organizations and institutions; and, finally, the principle, the basis, and the whole revolution, what would he (the official marked CIA agent) have done which Bani-Sadr did not do? What plans would he have devised that Bani-Sadr did not? On 17 Shahrivar [8 Sep], on 'Ashura, on 22 Bahman [11 Feb], and on 14 Esfand [5 Mar], in Shiraz and Tehran, what would he have said that Bani-Sadr did not? What things would he have said in his reportcard that this one did not? What insults would he have written in the editorials and headlines of his newspaper that this one did not? What would he have made of the weaknesses and problems that this one did not? And whom would he have found responsible

that Bani-Sadr did not? Indeed, would such an official, marked agent have done anything other than what Bani-Sadr did, or follow a path other than the one Bani-Sadr did?

Then, it is not surprising that all the audiences of his honor's empty speeches did not shout "death to America" even once. Does this problem, this small problem (1), raise a question in your minds? In this light, the imam's statement can be understood more clearly. He said: "The imam's line was to forget the United States, and the shouts of death to America."

If it were otherwise, it would have been surprising. The documents of the spy nest show that the natural process was exactly this. The "United Front of Counterrevolution" was formed for this purpose and these flies had gathered around that cookie, cheering him on for the same purpose. And he believed that--God save us--he was the greatest thinker of the century!

9593

CSO: 4640/37

WEEKLY BULLETIN INTERPRETS RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 28, 9 Jul 81 pp 1-11

[Text] Chances of Destabilization of Khomeyni Regime

Will the other Great Ayatollahs, Iran's top clergy, who have until now remained silent opponents of Khomeyni, be the next to start a destabilisation movement towards the overthrow of his regime?

The possibility was raised by an appeal sent last week to Khomeyni by Ayatollah Medhi Rouhani, head of the 300,000 strong Shi'ite community in Europe and North Africa, calling for a national reconciliation grouping to bring together all Iranians, pro-regime and opposition. Rouhani, who edits a monthly periodical in French and Persian called LA PENSEE ISLAMIQUE SHI'ITE [SHI'ITE ISLAMIC THOUGHT] and is a brother of one of the Great Ayatollahs (Ozma) in Mohammad Sadegh Rouhani, called for an end to all acts of revenge, summary executions and confiscations of property, international mediation to end the war with Iraq, and importantly, the setting up a Supreme Council of the Clergy to supervise, observe and orient the affairs of the state and government institutions without actually interfering in the execution of their work.

The council would consist of "leading Shi'ite personalities," implying the other eight Great Ayatollahs along with Khomeyni. Besides Khomeyni and Rouhani, the others are Kazem Shariat-Madari, already known to be critical of Khomeyni and under virtual house arrest in Qom, two others in Qom in Mohammad Reza Golpayegani and Marashi-Najafi, Shirazi and Tabatabai Qomi in Mashad, Ali Khonsari in Tehran and the most important of all, Abolghassem Khoyi in Najaf, the Shi'ite shrine in Iraq.

Of these only Qomi in Mashad has formally condemned what is happening in Iran as unIslamic, and publicly called for an end to the violence and abuse of rights.

IPS' diplomatic correspondent in Paris, in an exclusive interview with Rouhani, asked why the other Great Ayatollahs had remained silent until now. Rouhani said it was fear, because if they did speak out they could be killed by "those hooligans" (the hezbollahis).

"Besides they know that for the time being nobody will listen so it's no use saying anything," he said. "But I believe they are reserving themselves for the day when they can come out and tell Iran and the whole world that they are the real men of God for they never approved of what Khomeyni has done, and that what Khomeyni has done is wrong and un-Islamic."

Rouhani said he was appealing to Khomeyni because he was the decision-maker at present, but unfortunately he was not a leader and had no competence as a head of state. "This is not an insult but a simple truth," Rouhani said. "Maybe he is a man of God, but he is not a man of politics."

He said he believed that the day the ayatollahs and the people of Iran saw the smallest light of hope they would show their reaction to Khomeyni. For the moment, however, the war had provided a further reason for silence, for nobody wanted to weaken Iran's efforts against Iraq.

Rouhani said the revolution had the positive aspect of the overthrow of the Shah and the close associates who had been misleading him, but also the negative one of not providing the freedom, social justice, independence, generalisation of education and culture and the reestablishment of good neighbourliness that was in the interests of all Iranians. Power struggles between individuals were responsible for the failure in the latter area. The revolution had been a genuine and popular one, in his opinion, but the people who had taken the reins were not able to lead it.

Islam, Rouhani said, insisted much more on freedom, tolerance, forgiveness and justice than on the Law of Taliun (Retaliation) and violence on which Khomeyni insisted. This was because Khomeyni was not in touch with the realities of the world. Rouhani explained that the principles of Islam obeyed the laws and conditions of the times before they were applied, and if they proved against the interests of the majority or could engender corruption, Islamic laws must not be applied.

An Islamic society must be created before Islamic laws should be applied, he said. On the stoning of women in Kerman he said the women concerned knew only that they were Muslims, obviously nothing more, and should have been given the chance to be educated on Islam and the Islamic way, not killed. Once the people were educated in this Islamic way, then Islamic laws could be implemented.

The revolution would continue on its way, Rouhani contended. But it should be remembered that Khomeyni was a creation of the revolution and not its creator. Rouhani expressed his belief that Khomeyni would be thrown out and replaced. When he was in Paris, Khomeyni was merely the antenna, for the people were absolutely ready for revolution; everybody knew there would be an explosion but they needed a symbol. When religion became the symbol Khomeyni was chosen as the individual symbol of it. But he did not play a leading role in the preparation and activating of the revolution.

Rouhani said he felt that if some national reconciliation movement was not introduced another explosion would occur and the people could turn their back on the revolution. He thought the people would get their rights back and change

the regime sooner rather than later. And the moderate religious leaders would be essential to any change, even a military coup d'etat, which would need the higher religious leaders to calm the people and make the appeal to back the coupmakers.

Rouhani also took issue with Khomeyni on the Velayat-e-Faqih issue, which he said was a theological role not an ideological one. Khomeyni had imposed himself with the help of bayonets and guns, and killing people, though under Shi'ism the people were free to choose their own spiritual leader. The religious leaders had trusted Khomeyni and made him their symbol but they soon realised he was not honest. They had given him their amnat (a term for an article handed over for safekeeping) but he had refused to hand it back.

IPS' correspondent pointed out to Rouhani the similarity of his concept of a national reconciliation grouping to that suggested by veteran statesman Ali Amini. Rouhani replied that any wise man would have the same idea for the welfare of the country. He agreed that what he was suggesting could be seen as a move towards the destabilisation, or even "religious impeachment" of Khomeyni by the other leading ayatollahs.

Bani-Sadr Holding Out

Although most observers seemed to have written off Bani-Sadr as a rival to Khomeyni after his dismissal from the presidency and disappearance, sources close to him in Europe were insisting in midweek that the last had not been heard of him in Iran.

Though a report in the London-based magazine EIGHT DAYS said a reporter of the periodical had had an exclusive interview in a hide-out not far from the war front in western Iran many people were not convinced that that could have been any more than a temporary hide-out.

And a source in Europe claimed that the former president was, in fact, in touch with both military and civilian "friends" and was considering his plan for future action.

"He is fully aware that if he leaves Iran he could suffer the same fate and disappearance into obscurity of Madani and Nazih and those before them," the source said. "He will stay, and every day that passes his support will be gathering itself again. The mullahs may have got their mobs out onto the street to pre-empt the demonstrations in Bani-Sadr's support but these mobs will eventually run out of steam."

The EIGHT DAYS interview added nothing to earlier statements made by Bani-Sadr. But the paper also gave the information that Mojahedin-e-Khalq leader Massoud Rajavi had arranged Bani-Sadr's escape along with Kurdish guerrillas.

Recovering from their initial shock after the murderous explosion at the IRP headquarters in Tehran the authorities in Tehran and elsewhere have rushed into

an orgy of arrests and executions, including those of a number of people who were alleged to be leaders of the Mojahedin. Houses were raided in many cities and hundreds of arrests have been made. The executions have also included hapless prisoners who have been in jail for more than a year; one 72-year-old businessman held for a long period at Evin prison in Tehran was dragged out of his cell and shot as a meaningless revenge move, his friends reported.

The announcement by the revolutionary authorities that they were seeking a Mojahedin member who had been working at the IRP headquarters in relation to the bomb explosion there showed that they intended to use the blast as a pretext to move against the leftist groups. Over 200 are now thought to have been executed since Bani-Madr's dismissal and the daily counts have brought a tense atmosphere in many cities.

Reports from provincial centres show a picture very similar to that in the weeks before the 1979 collapse, with revolutionary guards and rival Mojahedin groups going around threatening merchants to force them to either open or close their shops, outbreaks of fighting or sheer thuggery, and sporadic assassinations like that on Monday of the governor of Gilan, a hardliner, and his deputy. Scores of other officials have been badly beaten and abused.

Observers said the surprising effectiveness of the revolutionary guards' moves against the Mojahedin and other allies leftist groups suggested they were still enjoying some outside intelligence and organisational help, as in earlier days of the revolution. The presence of a delegation from Al Amal, the Shi'ite organisation in Lebanon which trained many of the Iranian revolutionaries, was revealed by reports of their meeting with Ayatollah Khomeyni in the press, and the observers thought there could be more purpose behind its presence than mere protocol.

The pro-Moscow Tudeh party, in a message of condolence after the death of Beheshti, expressed its solid backing for the Islamic regime and called on the people to unite behind the revolution.

Meanwhile, some concern was spreading over new Iraqi air attacks on Iran's oil installations. The refinery at Tabriz was bombed and planes were reportedly active over Kharg and other areas.

Silence of Human Rights Groups

Iranians in exile have been astounded by the failure of European governments and human rights organisations to raise their voices in protest against the current carnage in Iran.

Over the past two weeks more than 200 people, ranging from youngsters in their early teens, who have little idea of the implications of what they are doing in demonstrating, to businessmen who have been in prison for over a year and thus could not be implicated in any recent political activities, have been shot by Islamic firing squads.

The revolting mentality of those who sentence them is shown by the charges leveled. The sister of Ashraf Dehqan, the anti-IRP Fedayeen minority leader who is reported to have been executed some time ago himself, was shot in Tabriz last week on charges of counter revolutionary activities and being a prostitute. A young Mojahedin activist in Isfahan was alleged to be a counter revolutionary, but also a homosexual who sold himself for money to raise funds for his political activities. Many hundreds executed over the last two years have been accused of immorality, to the shame and disgust of their families, merely to diminish their stature and prevent them from becoming martyrs.

The complaint of the exiles against the governments and Amnesty International is that they have not found enough confidence, based on their values of rights, to voice condemnation of what is undoubtedly one of the worst cases of deliberate killing of individuals for their beliefs since the Jewish holocaust in Europe. Not only have Bahais been slaughtered merely for being Bahais, but thousands of Muslims who were deemed criminals simply for not accepting a certain view of Islam have been put to death.

"While Amnesty International used to try to publicise every case of ill treatment, never mind execution, of political prisoners in Iran under the Shah--and rightly too--we do not understand why it has not been able to find a way to draw world attention more closely to what has been happening there recently," a former Iranian politician told IPS.

"Amnesty has done a good job in bringing pressure to bear on governments who do not allow the public in their countries to freely express themselves, and one appreciates the role they play when Western governments are afraid to damage their economic prospects in different parts of the world. But in a case like Iran, where so many people have been executed for reasons ranging from former political associations to minor moral offences--all of the charges unproven under any modern conception of legal proceedings--it seems astonishing that it has not tried to build up the same pressures it succeeded in doing against the Shah."

A simple poem in last weekend's Persian language weekly ASGHAR AGHA, published in London, summed up Iranians' feelings about the silence of even those former European friends who lived and worked alongside them so long in Iran over the tragedy that is being played out there. It was addressed to Amnesty International and the International Red Cross and entitled wryly, "Western Zeal!"

A rough translation goes: "Sometimes it is that there is no news, from Western zealots; not even any news of human rights; no mission has been to Iran recently, no news of any committee, any mission, nobody could care less about Iran; since the Shah left that now ruined country, it is as if there are no more political prisoners, no political martyrs; it has become a hundred times worse, but sadly, the West makes no complaint; it is as if there is no torture in the prisons, as if there were no club or bayonet, threatening people in their homes or in the street; this savage sect has exceeded the limits, you see no justice, all is injustice; oh, has the West lost all enthusiasm, as if there is left no profit in it? Every human being in Iran is full of sorrow, but nobody could care less about Iran."

It is a naive, but poignant plea from a people whose illusions about the fairness and sincerity of the Western societies have been rudely shattered.

BBC's Newnight programme on Tuesday night did show an eloquent and moving film and commentary on the fate of the Bahai community in Iran, including in it secretly taken film of burned out Bahai homes and the destruction of the Bahai's shrine in Shiraz being undertaken by men with pickaxes.

Families of executed people and of others who have disappeared over the last two years gave accounts of their experiences. Startling to westerners was the same spirit of acceptance of martyrdom that has been reflected in the speeches of Muslim leaders since the death of Beheshti and many of his colleagues.

"My mother phoned me (two days after my father was killed) and she was happy. He wrote a letter to us to say he was happy to have died for his faith. So I was happy," was the chilling theme of one sad girl.

The poor Shah also got caned by the commentator for responsibility for programs which, he said, were carried out during his reign. Yet the Shah was assailed by the revolutionaries for allowing Bahais to hold high positions and to follow their faith freely. Indeed, this was a prominent part of the propaganda against him for some years. Over the past 20 years, when he ignored all expressions of religious bigotry from his clergy and frequently high Muslim officials, the Shah protected all the religious minorities in Iran from any forms of persecution, especially the Bahais.

Amnesty International has made attempts to publicise the fate of Bahais in Iran over the last two years, but it has received little help from the Western media and its own machinery is woefully inadequate to carry out real campaigns without the kind of assistance it received from leftist organisations to publicise alleged ill treatment of political opponents by the Shah's regime.

The BBC programme ended by showing some of the scores of messages sent to organisations in the West pleading for someone to stand up to the Bahais and commented, "Sadly they have all fallen on deaf ears."

Leftist Expose of Horrors

A meeting organised by the Iranian League for Human Rights in Paris to denounce the "bloodthirsty, dark ages" regime of Ayatollah Khomeyni became something of a post mortem trial for the late Shah as well as a demonstration of ineffective attitudes.

Participating in the meeting, which was attended by more than 70 Iranians and French people, were Ali Shakeri, of the league, a woman lawyer who is a member of the French Commission for the Defence of Human Rights, a leftist French woman journalist from NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR, French socialist Claude Bourdet, Fereidoun Keshavarz, a notorious communist who fled from Iran many years ago, and Hassan Nazih, Khomeyni's first oil chief, who is now in opposition to him in exile.

Bourdieu urged all Iranian forces and groups from the extreme left to the centre (he excluded those of the right) to gather under the banner of human rights to oust the religious dictatorship in Iran. He defended the right of journalists and intellectuals to intervene, unlike the state, "anywhere the rights of people are denied, be it in Iran, Afghanistan or El Salvador."

Keshavarz, formerly a stalwart of the Pro-Moscow Tudeh (Communist) Party in Iran, upset many of his listeners, some of whom trooped out in protest, by his remarks. But he appealed to French President Mitterrand to intervene in Iran "to stop the massacres."

The NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR newswoman Kenize Murat, ruled out any outright success for the so-called liberals in Iran, because, she said, the revolution was a popular religious one. Shakeri, a self-styled Mossadeghist, contested this view, pointing to the fact that like himself, Keshavarz and Nazih had actively taken part in it.

Shakeri said the Iranian people had begun their fight for freedom from the tyrannical reign of the Shahs five centuries ago, but Khomeyni had treated concepts of human rights with derision. Shakeri did not explain why he had chosen five hundred years ago as the starting date for the struggle; Khomeyni himself has said it began 2,500 years ago!

Finally, when half the audience had already left, Nazih read out a long letter sent many years ago by Khomeyni to the late Shah in which he accused the Shah of "interfering with God's affairs" in giving freedoms to Iranians, "for it is only God who gives freedom, which is his gift." Nazih added that Khomeyni was now committing worse crimes than the Shah did.

At the same time, at the Cite Universitaire, the students' dormitory centre in Paris, there was a bloody clash between communist and pro-Khomeyni students with clubs, cables and knives and Mojheddin-e-Khalq supporters and their allies. Several were taken to hospital for treatment after special police had broken up the fighting.

Earlier in the week Mojaheddin supporters had occupied the Iranian embassy in Paris for four hours before they were forced out by police, who kept back a big group of pro-Khomeyni students who tried to attack the occupiers. The Mojaheds left peacefully after making their point, which was to obtain some publicity in the French press and media for their cause.

Their action was reported widely on French radio and TV, which actually showed the Khomeyni supporters though it called them Mojahedin. Both British television channels recently showed fundamentalist supporters carrying photographs of the now dead Ayatollah Beheshti in the belief they were Mojahedin supporters in Tehran, but the Mojaheds were happy the commentary described the protests as by them. Frequently in recent months both British channels and others, according to Iranian viewers, have shown old films of Tehran demonstrations, describing them as new ones. Presumably the films were supplied as new ones by Iranian television, or were hauled out of archives here.

Conjecture Over Bomb Blast

The announcement of the name of an alleged member of the Mojahedin-e-Khalq as the man wanted for placing the explosives which killed Ayatollah Beheshti and over 70 of his colleagues in the Islamic Republican Party put an end to most conjecture on who was responsible--even though many people felt this might be only a ploy of the regime to justify more killings of young nationalists.

Prior to the announcement the world's press had continued to consider the possible perpetrators of the bombing. In Paris, while the left wing press was still mulling over how it could be that revolutionaries of any kind could be so beastly to leftists, the right wing journalists were more sardonic and even cynical.

The FIGARO's weekly magazine pointed out that quite a few of the mullahs were disenchanted with Beheshti's dictatorship and could have been responsible for wiping him out. It could also have been Bani-Sadr's supporters, it said, but went on to warn its readers about being sentimental over the deposed president.

It said Bani Sadr was an ignorant lunatic who had been mixed up with the early purges and executions in Iran, and that while he was in Paris in the years before the revolution he was far from being a liberal. In reality he was mixing with the extreme left such as Trotskyites and the Cambodians of Pol Pot supporters. Indeed, Bani-Sadr also went along with the Pol Pot idea of depopulating major cities and limiting consumption.

FIGARO warned that it was now easy to see for whom the bell tolled in the present situation in Iran--for Iran's northern neighbour. It was a terrible situation, with 100,000 killed and injured, 3-4,000 of them executed, in two years since the revolution. There were mass killings, lootings, highway robbery, which made it difficult even to bring food into the cities. Forty per cent were unemployed and two thirds of industry was closed down. Forty thousand revolutionary guards, many of them trained in South Yemen, Syria and Libya, with the Palestinians in Lebanon or even in North Korea, and often with Soviet advisers, were pursuing the so-called counter-revolutionaries and were the instrument of most of the executions.

Another magazine, VSD, considered something of an authority on Iranian affairs and with obviously good contacts with Middle East intelligence sources, pointed to the strange coincidence of the death of the commander of the irregular forces Mostafa Chamran with the departure of Bani-Sadr. It said according to reports Chamran commanded an army of 20,000 tough volunteers who were giving the Iraqis a hard time and who were close to the armed forces. According to VSD a revolutionary guard killed Chamran while he slept in Ahvaz, where he had come for a brief respite from the front. It could be that Chamran could have led his army against the regime; he was seen as close to Bani Sadr.

VSD asked who were most likely to profit from the recent bomb disaster in Te'ran--and came up with the pro-Moscow Tudeh party as the answer. There was a vacuum to be filled and with help from the Soviet Union Tudeh could fill it.

The French press has also reported that a group calling itself the National Equality Party has written to many prominent Iranians in Europe saying it pledged to kill not only Beheshti, but Khalkhali, Hashemi Rafsanjani, Mousavi Ardabili, Ali Qoddusi, guards chief Abbas Zamani and premier Rajai. The group is said to have claimed they were responsible for the bomb blast in Tehran.

Tehran Animosity to 'BBC'

The BBC Persian language service, which did such an enthusiastic job in helping the Paris-based opposition to coordinate its supporters in Iran during the last months of the Shah's reign, has found out, like so many others before it, that there is precious little gratitude spawned by revolution.

Tehran radio in the past week has accused it of trying to weaken the Islamic revolution and trying to give aid to counter revolutionaries which would help bring back a puppet regime supported by London and Washington.

Similar animosity to the BBC was reported by GUARDIAN representative David Hirst, who said some of the crowd watching Beheshti's funeral in Tehran complained to him about the corporation's attitude to Iran. Though they were unlikely themselves to be listeners to the BBC they had obviously received the propaganda against the service which is all-pervasive in Tehran.

The Tehran radio commentary early this week was obviously written by someone who had not read about the cuts made by the British Government in its contributions to the external services. For he alleged that at a time when Britain's economic situation was serious and cuts were being made in many areas, the BBC's budget was going up!

He claimed that the BBC reached out to four billion people and had 25,000 personnel helping it to serve as "the voice of imperialism, colonialism and Zionism." It was the voice of oppression against the true struggling people, and it helped foist people like Idi Amin on countries.

The commentary also claimed that while there was a bloody situation in northern Ireland the BBC was not giving discussions or commentaries on the situation.

Iranian observers in London said the attacks on the BBC Persian service had begun once the world media in general began to become more critical of the situation and regime in Iran when the Bani-Sadr dispute arose. Following the widespread criticism of its role in the Iranian revolution it had taken pains since to preserve as objective a stance as possible.

"Ultimately control of the service must rest in the hands of the Foreign Office, who have what might be called a rapport with the officials running the external services," one Iranian journalist told IPS. "The Iranians who work for the Persian language service are not usually people with much experience, if any,

before they join it so are malleable material for carrying out the task required of them. As in the other services, being able to live in a place like London and to earn a crust of bread is the prime consideration for them.

"On the other hand, like all human beings they can be carried away by causes and at the time of the Iranian revolution much of the world was rooting for the ayatollah regardless of the consequences in blood which have resulted from his victory. The BBC liberals and their Persian staff would certainly not be immune to that euphoria and it certainly would not require any prompting on the part of the Foreign Office to get them to do the job they did. Probably the Foreign Office, which received many protests both from Tehran and Britons about the damage being done by the Persian service, was too afraid of the consequences of direct interference to actually do anything about the situation.

"But since then they do appear to have brought the programmes into line and British interests have become paramount. So it is understandable the Tehran regime is not so happy as it was before."

Meanwhile, foreign journalists in Tehran have protested about the restrictions being imposed on them by officials there and about allegations that they are "spying for the U.S." An editorial in the governing Islamic Republican Party's newspaper JOMHOURI-E-ESLAMI urged the people to bring the activities of foreign journalists under their stern control.

Reports from Tehran this week said that agencies like the AGENCE FRANCE PRESS who are still allowed correspondents in Tehran have been told they must only disseminate statements from the PARS News Agency, which is controlled by the government, and not those of other sources. REUTERS' alleged failure to do this led to its correspondents being ordered out of Iran on Tuesday. The GUARDIAN's Hirst was expelled at the same time, the Tehran press having openly described him as a CIA spy.

This reflects the authorities' attitude to reporting. For a long time many correspondents have tried to make out a case for the regime's more enlightened attitude to criticism in comparison with its predecessor; but the latest moves against all of its critics have disabused them of that illusion.

Media Comments

Iran's hard currency reserves have dropped from \$14 billion to a mere \$1.3 billion, according to the Marxist Paris fortnightly AFRIQUE ASIE.

The paper, a staunch supporter of the Islamic revolution, quoted Alireza Nobari, the recently dismissed Central Bank governor, as saying the fall from the former figure came after the beginning of 1981. At the present rate of depletion the reserves will last only a few months.

According to AFRIQUE ASIE, the mullahs' regime last year imported a record \$11 billion worth of goods, more than half of them foodstuffs and primary materials.

The paper said that some of the strongest bases of dispute between Bani-Sadr and the fundamentalists were oil sales and purchases from abroad. Correspondent Hedi Dhoukar said that instead of cutting oil production, as Bani-Sadr wanted, the mullahs sold more at a time of world surplus and cut-throat prices.

And Bani-Sadr, the "father" of nationalisation of banks and other private institutions in Iran, was fighting for the closure of all industries depending on foreign-made spare parts and components--at a time when the mullahs were signing big contracts with the virtually bankrupt Talbot company, and were about to sign another with West Germany's Volkswagen.

In chorus with Tehran's Voice and Vision of Islam Moscow radio's Persian language programme has charged the CIA as trying to unite in one front "all Iranian counterrevolutionaries."

Igor Shetolov, a Soviet commentator on Iranian affairs, who speaks fluent Persian and reads his own commentaries, said Savak, which he claimed was set up by the CIA and Israel's Mossad, had "killed and tortured more than 100,000 Iranian patriots."

According to Shetolov there are at the moment 8,000 agents of Savak, under the command of CIA agents, active in sabotage, assassinations and explosions, including the one which destroyed the IRP headquarters.

"As Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Islamic parliament, said, agents of the United States of America have committed the worst sin, unprecedented since the glorious revolution. The imperialists wanted, by means of assassination and terror, to intimidate the Iranian people into stopping their struggle, but the result was the contrary. The explosion in Tehran created a wave of anti-U.S. sentiment, and huge crowds of demonstrators chanted 'Death to America,'" Shetolov said.

A new radio station opposed to the Tehran regime has begun transmitting into Iran, but its location has not been ascertained by listeners. On the 19 metre band, 15.600 megahertz, and broadcasting for one hour from 1700 GMT each evening, it was at first thought to be located in Baghdad but subsequent disparaging references to "the Iraqi aggressors" and "savage" precludes this.

Monitoring in western Europe with normal radio receivers is difficult for the first half hour of the programme because of a very strong signal from Moscow's Persian programme. But it becomes much clearer in the second half. The news is at least 12 to 24 hours later, suggesting it is prepared elsewhere before transmission. The same failing is true of Shahpour Bakhtiar's Radio Iran and the former Oveissi-backed Free Voice of Iran, both based in Baghdad, who have their main offices in western Europe and prepare the news broadcasts there.

The new station's commentaries, though anti-Khomeyni, also include some scathing references to the previous regime, so it is presumably not run by monarchists, as a fourth station, Radio Watan (Motherland) appears to be. The Free Voice of Iran is now run by journalists who were formerly working with the late Shah's former military chief Gholamali Oveissi but they now run it independently of him.

Informed opposition sources in Paris say that Egypt has now agreed to give Bakhtiar facilities for a one hour daily programme to be beamed to Iran. The programme will be launched shortly.

The outline of an Islamic intelligence and counter-intelligence organisation which will spy on and pinpoint dissidents and counter-revolutionaries, was announced over Tehran radio early in the week.

It was obviously based on details written about the Soviet KGB, and included provision for plain clothes agents to mix with the people and report dissidents; agent provocateurs to generate discontent and thus expose and identify counter-revolutionaries; set up special groups to detect the sources of discontent (This, the commentary said, could have prevented incidents like those at Gonbad-e-Kavus in the early days after the revolution); protection of leaders by plain clothes and uniformed personnel; proper checks of all premises where gatherings are to be held and of people entering them (which could have prevented the IRP headquarters bombing, it was pointed out); moving poorer families into the better class areas so they can report on the activities of people living there; agents to travel in buses and taxis to listen to critics of the regime and check on them; education of parents to help them control their children, together with exemplary punishments for younger dissidents; establishing of the point that reporting all anti-Islamic activities was a national and human duty.

Khomeini himself called upon the public to report all suspicious activities and keep vigilant in a speech last week.

In a reply, which had previously not been circulated, to former president Bani-Sadr's criticism of his government's handling of the hostages deal with the United States, Premier Mohammad Ali Rajai retorted, according to the press, that if Bani-Sadr had given his cooperation the government did not deny a more advantageous deal could have been made. But Bani-Sadr would not cooperate, and Rajai said that the noise made by the former president spoiled the chances that were there soon after the hostages were taken to have made a much better deal with Carter.

Ayatollah Khomeini, very much less in the public eye these days, attacked freemasons and the "bastard chickens of Pahlavi and the Thousand Families who march under the banner of the Mojahedin and Fedayeen minority to create trouble for the Islamic revolution," when he spoke in the Majlis.

Bani-Sadr has not yet tasted the punishment of the Islamic revolution, but "God willing, we will show him," Behzad Nabavi, mooted as Iran's next prime minister, told a press interview. He scoffed at the former president, saying Bani-Sadr wanted the borders open to allow him to escape: "We don't leave the stage," Nabavi said. "We prefer death to escape." Asked about reports he might become premier Nabavi said he was always ready to serve his country.

The exile paper SOROUD-E-MA (OUR HYMN) referred to reports in the Tehran press of a hunger strike at a leper colony near Bojunurd in north east Iran, where inmates were complaining of poor conditions and treatment facilities. The Tehran papers

reported the death of one leper and serious illness of another refusing to eat. SOROUD-E-MA asked if it was not absurd for the Tehran regime to be making so much fuss about the hunger strikes in northern Ireland when it was ignoring one going on in its own country.

The Tehran regime has downgraded its relations with South Korea to charge d'affaires level and expelled three members of the embassy staff in Tehran as agents of Korean intelligence, and of the U.S. Observers see the move as a victory for North Korea, which has been supplying military and other materials and boosting its links with Tehran. Khalkhali was a recent visitor to North Korea. The observers' view seemed confirmed when Tehran radio on Wednesday night reported a meeting between the ambassador of North Korea and premier Rajai, at which the latter expressed Iran's interest in help from North Korea in agricultural, industrial and other economic fields.

Five foreigners, whose names were given by the ETTELAAT newspaper as Zeno and Salim Sylva, Edward Yerva, Peter Namasiri and Mrs Gail, were arrested in Shemran, north Tehran, on charges of having forged passports and helped people to escape abroad.

CSO: 4600/77

RABIN, ARENS DISCUSS SITUATION IN NORTH

TA162020 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Jul 81

[Interview with former Prime Minister MK Yitzhaq Rabin and outgoing chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee MK Moshe Arens in the television studio by party affairs correspondent Nisim Mish'al--live]

[Text] [Mish'al] Last night, an escalation was marked along the northern border by the firing of hundreds of Katyusha rockets, and today there was a massive air force reaction. MK Rabin, what in fact led to this escalation?

[Rabin] First of all, the terrorists' goal is to exacerbate the war against us. At the same time, I do not share the cabinet's policy of initiating action, and especially not a massive air force operation against the terrorists. In my opinion a military action has no chance of bringing about the liquidation of the terrorists' power in Lebanon, or of preventing them from desiring to continue their activity.

[Mish'al] Yet the fact remains that so far this policy has been successful, there were no penetrations for 2 years, for instance.

[Rabin] That is why we had better clarify what the objective of any government in Israel should be--first of all to prevent penetration with the aim of hitting the residents of Israel: to prevent fire from being directed at Israeli targets--all this in order to prevent normal life from being disrupted. The prevention of penetrations was achieved primarily by the preemptive activity in the form of the fences set up along the northern border, the air and sea patrols. All these actively prevented penetrations from occurring. In addition to this, selectively initiated activity was taken, but not massive activity with the aim of killing terrorists and destroying their infrastructure. Secondly, the terrorists' capability of hitting the northern settlements is a given fact. If it transpires that the terrorists indeed intend to hit the northern settlements regardless of either retaliation or our air activity, the problem is not in the air; it is much more serious.

[Mish'al] Perhaps we will address MK Arens: To what extent does the government's policy of initiating attacks on the terrorists constitute the cause of the exacerbation as MK Rabin maintains?

[Arens] I believe one must make a distinction here: in the last 4 years, the various PLO elements--Hawatimah, Jabril and 'Arafat established in southern Lebanon what is, in effect, a Palestinian ministate stretching from Beirut to the Litani River, including the Fatahland. They control under the aegis of the Syrian Army and have in the last few months amassed much armament, including tanks and the more modern Katushas and artillery. Their entire raison d'etre in the war against Israel is hitting its citizens. Therefore, what is currently happening in the north is a direct result of the existence of these elements, operating uncontrollably, without supervision, independently from southern Lebanese territory.

[Mish'al] And you do not attribute the exacerbation to the government's policy?

[Arens] Not at all. Not at all. As long as these elements are there, and these elements--the various PLO units--whose raison d'etre [last phrase in French] is hitting the Israeli civilian population are there, they will try to hit it, and we will have to find the answer of how to prevent them from doing so. We have found the answer for the prevention of the penetration: the fence Yitzhaq Rabin had mentioned and all the other passive means are there, with all due respect. Before the IDF had begun initiating operations--by the air force, as well as by ground and navy forces--we have not been as successful as we were last year in preventing penetrations.

CSO: 4323/16

MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO SETTLE WEST BANK BEDOUIN

TA151951 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Excerpts] The military government has recently begun a campaign to move the Bedouin residing in the Judaea desert to permanent settlements. The campaign also involves assembling the Bedouin tribes living along the Jerusalem-Jericho highway in a permanent site. Here is a report by our correspondent in the territories, Rafiq Halabi:

[Begin videotape] [Halabi] Dr Moshe Sharon has for months now been the coordinator of a project to permanently settle the Judaea and Samaria Bedouin. During the Jordanian rule, the heads of the Bedouin tribes were highly influential. Some of them had close contacts in the court. Today, in the political reality in the region, they have lost a lot of their power.

Using the sharp instincts of men of the desert, the Bedouin leaders have now been working toward reaching a permanent settlement so as not to be crushed in the middle, as they call it.

[Sharon] As we know, there are two groups of Bedouin. The first are the tribes of refugees from the war of independence, for whom we have been finding areas where they will settle permanently. In other words, this is the initiative of the military government. One group will now settle east of Abu Dis, and the second will, generally speaking, be settled east of [name of place indistinct]. And when I say: Settle permanently, this is at the Bedouin's request and with full coordination with them and their shaykhs.

[Halabi] Some 40,000 Bedouin reside in the West Bank. Some of them are nomads devoid of any claim to the land. The regional settlement and security needs have greatly constrained them: the pasture and grazing land has been limited.

People in the military government have said that in the area along the Alon road where chases after terrorists have been held there are both settlements [yishuvim vehe'ahzuyot] as well as military zones. Such is the case in the Hebron Hills area, too. The fact that the Bedouin are dispersed makes the development of the area difficult. At any rate, our impression today was that the Bedouin themselves are interested in finding a permanent settlement and want to be rehabilitated. The military government, for its part, has invested tens of millions of Israeli pounds [currency as heard] in this. [end videotape]

CSO: 4323/16

RELATIONS WITH CARIBBEAN DISCUSSED

FL161810 Bridgetown CANA in English 1712 QM 16 Jul 81

[Report by Peter Richards]

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, 16 Jul (CANA)--Israel wants to renew diplomatic relations with Guyana and Grenada, a top Israeli government official has stated. Aharon Ofri, the government's Jerusalem-based head of Central American and Caribbean Affairs, told reporters that Israel was thinking about opening a second embassy to serve Latin America and the Caribbean and wanted to have friends with the world.

"We may open another embassy in this region, after my tour. We have to determine if to open and where to open," Mr Ofri, presently on a visit to Caribbean countries, said. The official said diplomatic relations between Israel and Guyana did not exist. Mr Ofri said that in 1973 Cuba and Guyana adopted a pro-Soviet line and broke relations with Israel. He described Grenada's relationship with Israel as "passive."

"We would like to renew the relations with Guyana," he said, "they are much less fanatic than the Cubans."

Mr Ofri said Israel had sent Grenada greetings concerning its independence celebrations but had never received a reply or compliments on Israel's celebrations. "Nobody has broken relations, nobody has informed us we do not want to see you, it is now a deadlock," the official said.

Mr Ofri said Israel was prepared to train between 12 and 70 Dominicans next year in the agriculture sector. He described his discussions with Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, with whom he discussed Middle East affairs, as "open and good."

Mr Ofri added that Israel believes that the only solution for peace in the Middle East would be through negotiation. He said that if the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) insisted on having war, Israel would continue to retaliate. "If the PLO believes in killing Israelis there shall be no peace in this region, because we shall pursue the PLO wherever they are, not only in our border but across our borders."

Mr Ofri was due to visit St Lucia today.

SCIENCE TIES WITH EGYPT REPORTED

TAI31041 Jerusalem POST in English 13 Jul 81 p 7

[Report by Yitzhak 'Oqed]

[Text] Tel Aviv--Away from the limelight, almost in a stealthy manner, commercial relations and the exchange of scientific know-how continue to be carried out between Israel and Egypt.

Yesterday, for instance, 500 tons of Anna apples were shipped to Egypt. These tasty apples, of which there is a surplus here, follow the consignments of bananas that were sent last winter.

The know-how exchange is a two-way street. The Egyptians are planning to help Israeli farmers grow some new crops. These are mainly crops of medicinal herbs and spices. The exchange here will reach its peak this winter with meetings in Egypt by scientists and farmers from the two countries.

Dr Samuel Rohoryles, director of rural planning and development at the Agriculture Ministry who also heads the Israeli team in the dealings with the Egyptians, is a busy man these days. An interview with him had to be sandwiched in between a series of high-level meetings.

Rohoryles explained that talks and negotiations are being held all the time in Israel, in Egypt and also in the United States. Just recently there was such a bilateral meeting in San Diego, at which discussions were held on cooperation in the development of arid zones. A project model on this topic is slated to be set up for the Egyptian western desert.

Israeli scientists will leave this week for Egypt to discuss the use of an Israeli system to disinfect soils with the aid of solar energy rather than chemicals. This system, developed by scientists of the Hebrew University's faculty of Agriculture under Prof. Ya'akov Qatan, was first demonstrated to the Egyptians during the visit here of Egyptian Minister of Agriculture Mahmaud Da'ud.

Another project entails setting up a training and experimental farm in the Nile Delta which will show local farmers new methods in agriculture.

Rohoryles declined to be more specific concerning various projects. He explained that at present the relationship is at a stage where vagueness is the best policy. He is sure that in a matter of months the relationship will be stronger, and things can be discussed more openly. "But by then normalization itself will be normal, and there will not be too much to report in it for newsmen."

ISRAEL

BRIEFS

WEST BANK MAYOR--Hebron, 14 Jul--The military government this week appointed a new mayor of the hamlet of al-Zahiriyah in the Hebron Hills, after it dismissed the elected mayor, 'Ali Yasin (Mahaza) from his post last week. 'Ali (Mahaza) was found guilty of a security crime and even sentenced because of this by a military court. Military government acted on this issue in accordance with the Jordanian law which permits the dismissal of an elected mayor if he has committed a crime warranting punishment or a security offense. The ITIM correspondent in Judea and Samaria adds that mayors and heads of village councils throughout Judea and Samaria have issued announcements over the last few days condemning the dismissal of al(Mahaza). [Text] [TA142111 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2055 GMT 14 Jul 81]

JUNE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--The consumer's price index rose by 2.7 percent last month. The report, released by the Central Bureau of Statistics, indicates that there were price rises in all categories of consumption except for vegetables and fruits whose price was seasonally reduced by 13 percent. The prices of consumer's food rose in June by 4 percent. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that during the first half of the year the index rose by 39.4 percent. The June index, as released today, is even lower than the May index which stood at 3.3 percent. This decrease is attributed by economic circles to the continued policy of government-controlled prices and to the massive injection of money into the economy that reached a new peak last month. [Text] [TA151511 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 15 Jul 81]

STRENGTHENING CHILEAN TRADE--In view of Chile's rapid economic development, Israel will endeavor to follow in that country's footsteps, strengthen commercial ties with Chile and maintain a 30-percent inflation rate, said Commerce, Industry and Tourism Minister Gid'on Pat in a lecture yesterday at a discussion on the subject: "Development of Economic Relations Between Israel and Chile." The discussion was held in Tel Aviv on behalf of the Israeli-Latin American and Iberian Chamber of Commerce, under the patronage of the Industry Ministry, Bank Leumi and the Export Institute. The minister said that the convening of persons interested in doing business with South American states, notably, Chile, constitutes an additional layer in the strengthening of economic ties with that country. His office has, according to Mr Pat, earmarked South America as an economic target area and, the stronger the cooperation, the better it will be for both countries. The minister praised the economic success of Chile which, only a few years ago, experienced a 600-percent inflation. That inflation was

reduced to 30 percent today and it is estimated that in 1981 it will go down to 20 percent. The minister remarked that Israel too is endeavoring to reduce inflation. Mr Pat went on to say that Israeli industrialists and exporters have a wide range of possibilities for developing commercial ties with Chile. He stressed that in 1979 Israeli exports to that country amounted to \$3 million, whereas in 1980 they reached \$23 million. [Text] [TA161311 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 16 Jul 81 p 4]

NEGEV BEDOUIN EVACUATION--Many difficulties have developed in the evacuation of the Bedouin from the air base site in Tel Malhata. These difficulties began before the elections when party activists (not identified) tried to dissuade the Bedouin from cooperating with the executive managers of the air base which handle the Bedouin's transfer to two Bedouin townships. If the Bedouin do not cooperate difficulties are expected in executing work in the air base. The Bedouin who live in this area said yesterday that the executive managers promised them alternative land but the managers did not keep their promise. They also doubt the promises they were given regarding the establishment of the two townships and the compensation they will receive. Nevertheless, some of the evacuees have already started building houses in the townships. The decisive majority of the 6,000 Bedouin who belong to seven tribes and live in an area which extends 62,000 dunams have not yet been evacuated. The Bedouin are supposed to be evacuated to two townships--'Ar-ar and (Kumayfa)--where schools have already been built. Bedouin who lived in tents were evacuated after they received a compensation of several tens of thousands of shekels per family. Persons who had lived in brick houses and who evacuated them received about 100,000 shekels per family. [Text] [Mordekhay Artzie'eli] [TA131138 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Jul 81 p 5]

FORMER ARAB KNESSET MEMBER--Former Knesset member Sayf al-Din (Zu'abi), who was one of the Labor Party's firmest pillars in the Arab sector up to the 9th Knesset, is returning his membership card [Labor Party membership] and severing all contacts with the party. Mr (Zu'abi) has taken this step following the failure of his list, the United Arab List, in the latest election. Our correspondent, Gil Sadan, reports that Mr (Zu'abi) recently met with Minister Yitzhak Shamir and it appears that they discussed the possibility of his joining the Likud. Mr (Zu'abi) himself says that, for the moment, there is no agreement between him and the Likud. [Text] [TA111938 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 11 Jul 81]

MONETARY COMMITMENTS FROZEN--The treasury's accountant general has instructed all government ministries to freeze, immediately and until further notice, all commitments in local currency. From now on government ministries are forbidden to make new commitments, sign new contracts, issue bids or conduct meetings of committees on bids. No new orders are to be issued other than for food, medicaments and fuel. The accountant general of the Ministry of Finance decided on this because of the high flow of money in June, which reached 2.8 billion shekels. Our correspondent, Gadi Sukenik, comments that the suspicion has arisen that this month a similar sum--or even larger one--will

flow into the economy. The Ministry of Finance also wants to study the framework of the annual financial backing. According to estimates, the government spent, over the first 3 months of the budgetary year, from April to June, more than 14 percent compared with the same period last year. The accountant general says that, in exceptional cases, the actual cases will be discussed; thus, a committee for unusual cases has been established in which each director general will explain his request. Our correspondent reports that several of the directors general of the government ministers have reacted negatively to the accountant general's order and it is being assumed that the order will harm mainly the ministries of defense, education and all the settlement issues. [Text] [TA112019 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 11 Jul 81]

ALONI TO JOIN ALIGNMENT--Shulamit Aloni has agreed to join the alignment. This morning, alignment leaders will discuss the agreement reached between herself and the head of the alignment Knesset faction. According to this agreement, Shulamit Aloni will head a Knesset committee if the alignment chairs more than four committees. If not, Aloni will be appointed deputy Knesset speaker. Similarly, there will be agreements between the alignment and the citizens rights movement in the Histadrut and the Jewish agency. If the agreement is approved this morning, the number of alignment and Likud Knesset members will be equal. People in the alignment are hoping this will find expression in appointments to the Knesset committees. [Text] [TA130524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 13 Jul 81]

CSO: 4323/16

JORDAN

BRIEFS

MEDICAL AID TO LEBANON--Amman--Last night the Jordanian Government decided to send a medical team and medical aid to Lebanon to assist in treating the wounded victims of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and transfer those requiring specialized medical care to Jordan. Health Minister Dr Zuhayr Malhas said that this decision was adopted in view of the criminal Israeli aggression to which the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples are exposed and in view of the large number of wounded during the last 5 days. He added that the Health Ministry has sent a memorandum to WHO notifying it of this measure. [Text] [JN190850 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 19 Jul 81]

CSO: 4304/68

JORDAN

BRIEFS

MEDICAL AID TO LEBANON--Amman--Last night the Jordanian Government decided to send a medical team and medical aid to Lebanon to assist in treating the wounded victims of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and transfer those requiring specialized medical care to Jordan. Health Minister Dr Zuhayr Malhas said that this decision was adopted in view of the criminal Israeli aggression to which the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples are exposed and in view of the large number of wounded during the last 5 days. He added that the Health Ministry has sent a memorandum to WHO notifying it of this measure. [Text] [JN190850 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 19 Jul 81]

CSO: 4304/68

PARTY'S 'COMBAT TROOPS' GRADUATE

PM150842 Beirut AN-NAHAR in Arabic 12 Jul 81 p 5

[AN-NAHAR correspondent report: "700 Combat Soldiers of the Arab Democratic Party Pass Out in al-Hirmil"]

[Text] Al-Hirmil--Somewhere in al-Hirmil the Arab Democratic Party (formerly the Confrontation Front) celebrated the graduation of combat soldiers and military cadres consisting of 700 men of the "Arab Knights," the military wing of the party. This was the first class to graduate since the party was formed.

The class was under the supervision of the party's secretary of defense, lawyer Nasib al-Khatib in his capacity as commander of the "Arab Knights Forces." The ceremony was attended by the Party Assistant Secretary General Suhayl Hamadah and members of the military command. The party slogans were displayed which, among other things, said, "Arabism, freedom, progress!"

Al-Khabit and Hamada reviewed the parade of graduates, who wore wine-color battle-dress, and inspected the vehicles and weapons in the parade.

Al-Khatib made a speech about the class. He said that it lasted 6 months and that the participants in the class gained "extraordinary ability" in the use of light and heavy weapons as well as in the art of street fighting and of using rockets, mortars, and various types of weapons. He said that there is also a commando unit and that this class will be followed by other similar classes "so that the Arab Knights' Forces will take their place in the Lebanese national field and will move on the fronts to resist the Israeli agents in the country as well as in the south in order to achieve Lebanon's unity, consolidate its Arab affiliation, and liquidate the agents and the isolationists."

He said that the graduates will shortly stage a military parade in Beirut "in which the arms in possession of the party's military wing will appear."

Hamadah said the graduates "will play a struggling role in the national and pan-Arab fields." He also praised Syria's role in Lebanon "that has prevented partitioning and has thwarted the isolationist-Zionist conspiratorial plans." He also rejected the idea of including other forces in the Arab deterrent force.

CSO: 4304/68

LEBANON

BRIEFS

LEFTIST FIGURES AT 'GRADUATION'--The Arab Socialist Action Party celebrated in al-Hadath, Ba'Labakk, yesterday the graduation of a company of fighters from the "Kafr Tibnit Martyrs" course. In a speech delivered on the occasion in the name of the Lebanese national movement, Husayn ar-Rafi'i said, "we are graduating successive groups of fighters in the national movement in order to enrich the battlefield in Lebanon with cadres of fighters against the subservient and reactionary forces which are linked with the Zionist enemy. We in the national movement are with Syria fighting shoulder to shoulder against a common enemy and are committed to defending the Arabism of Lebanon." Speaking on behalf of the Palestinian revolution, Abu Usamah Badran said: "We are today celebrating the graduation of a new group to fight against the Zionist inside the country and in South Lebanon." In a speech on behalf of the Arab Socialist Action Party, Muhammad 'Ayyash said: "We are training close to the fighting lines in order to combine theory with practice. Our enemies are trained and organized, and the revolutionary forces cannot confront their enemies by doing less than that." [Text] [PM150908 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 28 Jun 81 p 5]

CSO: 4304/68

JALLUD'S USSR, SFRY VISITS

PM131426 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 4 Jul 81 p 12

["Exclusive" report: "Jallud's Visit to Moscow and Belgrade: New Agreements Covering Industrial, Agricultural and Scientific Fields; New Tour for Jallud in Western Europe"]

[Excerpts] Belgrade--Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud yesterday concluded his visits to the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. The working visits led to important and significant results. Jallud was accompanied by a civilian delegation and a large military delegation including three secretaries and the commanders of the Libyan armed services.

Major Jallud's visit to Moscow and Belgrade came less than 2 months after Col Mu'amar al-Qadhafi's visit to the two countries. The visit was described as a qualitative and strategic step between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the two countries, which are linked to Tripoli by distinguished ties of friendship.

Despite the fact that the Western media focused on the military aspect of relations during both Colonel al-Qadhafi's visit and Major Jallud's visit, the economic, technical and scientific aspects were no less important and probably greater and more influential in terms of the future of relations in that they concern economic and social life and constitute a big stride by the Jamahiriya on the path to the world of heavy industry and the utilization of scientific progress in the service of man.

Well-informed sources said that the agreements concluded with the Soviet Union outside the military framework were as follows:

1. An agreement under which the Soviets will build the second stage of the giant iron and steel complex now under construction in the Jamahiriya (the first stage being built by West Germany, Italy and Sweden). The second stage will cost about \$1.3 billion.
2. The Soviets will help the Jamahiriya in the establishment of several engineering industries (about 12 kinds), including drilling equipment, excavation and general earth moving equipment, and boilermaking.
3. The Soviets will provide their technical expertise in certain aspects related to the gas and oil industries (particularly pipe assemblies).

4. The Soviet Union is to build a complex of power stations and install the necessary network for them. It is understood that the Soviets are advanced in this type of work.

5. In the scientific field the Soviets will provide some of their expertise to the Jamahiriya in the field of sea water desalination with nuclear power.

As for Yugoslavia, the agreements concluded can be summed up as follows:

1. In the industrial field: the establishment of a joint industry in the Jamahiriya for aluminum production. The Jamahiriya is now building an aluminum production complex which is the biggest in Africa and one of the biggest in the world.

2. Yugoslavia will help the Jamahiriya in the construction of a major ship dockyard and a maritime school for maritime sciences and shipbuilding.

3. Yugoslavia will participate in the establishment of some engineering industries, particularly those related to the broadening of the industrial base, and the building of giant workshops for the manufacture of tools and small plants.

4. Yugoslavia will participate in some of the major agricultural projects, most prominent of which is the vast new agricultural project in the al-Kafrah region.

5. Yugoslavia will help in building the dream project which the Jamahiriya has for long been seeking to achieve, namely "the city of scientists." The city is supposed to contain all kinds of scientific centers and scientific research laboratories necessary for research now and in the future with all the energy sources that this project might need. In addition the city will include a data and computer center.

The dream city is supposed to house 15,000 scientists and researchers and provide all the means to satisfy the material and moral needs of the scientists and researchers and ensure a higher standard of living for them than they enjoyed in the advanced countries.

6. In the economic field an agreement was signed for the establishment of a Libyan Arab-Yugoslav bank to facilitate the financing of joint projects and the contracts agreed upon.

7. In the field of facilitating dealings between citizens of both countries a double taxation agreement was signed as well as a consular agreement and an agreement on the application of social security to citizens of both countries.

CSO: 4504/33

TRIPOLI COMMENTS ON ASAD'S VISIT

LD121414 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Jul 81

[Report from "News and Dimensions" program]

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Tripoli comes amid extremely important conditions: The Arab area has been witnessing new events and developments having a high degree of gravity and seriousness. The visit comes at a time when Zionist arrogance has reached its zenith following the attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor and the continued threat to Syria and the preparations to strike at its forces in Lebanon. The visit comes also after the pan-Arab call addressed by the brother commander to all Arabs to rally all Arab capabilities and resources against the Zionist threat to our entire pan-Arab existence. The visit also comes at a time when the Jamahiriyah has been facing continued threats from the United States and its agents in Egypt and Sudan.

In view of all that, President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Tripoli affirms that Damascus and Tripoli have always been in the same trench: The principal collision line and the frontline against enemies of the Arab nation. It also affirms the importance of the meeting of all parties to the steadfastness and confrontation front to bolster and unify their efforts and capabilities in facing the threat which is directed against our Arab nation as a whole.

While it was the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah which called for unification of all Arab capabilities in the face of the Zionist danger, Damascus, too, realizes through its position on the first line of collision and through its role as a solid steadfast stronghold against the plots of imperialism and Zionism the importance of rallying all Arab efforts and resources in the face of the Zionist threat. Hence, President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Tripoli will have great results both on the level of special relations between Libya and Syria and on the level of relations among the member countries of the steadfast and confrontation front, as well as on the level of relations among Arab countries and the need for rallying all Arabs and their resources and casting aside their differences in order to tackle the one enemy that threatens our entire pan-Arab existence.

CSO: 4504/33

BRIEFS

BROTHERHOOD ATTACK IN ALEPPO--A Syrian colonel and two other officers were killed in Aleppo in the past 48 hours. Thirty people were killed or wounded. According to information available to us, last Tuesday morning the Muslim Brotherhood attacked a center for changing identification cards in al-Kallasah area. They hurled hand-grenades killing or wounding 30 people. As a result the center was closed. On Wednesday at midnight, a Syrian army colonel, two other officers and several soldiers were killed in an armed ambush set up by the Muslim Brotherhood near Ariha. In the ensuing tension, special units besieged the area, sealed off the road between Aleppo and Latakia and detained a large number of people on the charge of being members of the Muslim Brotherhood. The area is still encircled and the search is continuing for Muslim Brotherhood members. Yesterday, Thursday, special units besieged the Sayf ad-Dawlah area in Aleppo, and over loud speakers urged the people to help arrest Muslim Brotherhood suspects, as otherwise their homes would be destroyed and burned down. [Text] [NC171350 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Jul 81]

ISSUE OF BARZANI'S TOMB--To Comrade Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Fraternal Democratic Party of Kurdistan. Greetings of struggle. With abounding indignation and condemnation, the masses of our Kurdish people in Syria received the news of the extension of criminal hands to the body of immortal leader Mustafa Barzani. The fascist regime in Iraq and its agent mercenaries are behind this treacherous aggression. By this deed, they undoubtedly aim at sparking a bloody sedition and at dragging your struggling factions into peripheral fighting and exhaustion, serving their criminal aims. Our Kurdish Democratic Party in Syria, which supports your party's glorious struggle, strongly condemns this criminal aggression by the Iraqi regime's agents. We appeal to you to foil their aims and wicked purposes. Glory and immortality to Barzani and disgrace to agents and enemies of our people. Signed: The Kurdish Democratic Party in Syria, 8 July 1981. [Text] ["Text" of 8 July 1981 message sent to Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Iraqi Democratic Party of Kurdistan, by the Syrian Kurdish Democratic Party] [JN161835 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Jul 81]

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